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nature and purposes of official statistics as adjuncts to government, legislation and the political sciences in general. Dr. Furlan of Basel treats the subject of reorganization of the Swiss statistical service in his article and recommends the formation of a Central Statistical Commission for the republic.

Vital statistics for the year 1914 are also given. The European War profoundly affected the marriage rate; the effect upon birth and death rates will not become statistically apparent until the data for 1915 are published.

An article published by the Swiss Statistical Bureau shows the results of the 1910 population census for the several main classes of the population with respect to country of origin, and sex and age.

The effect of the war upon Swiss industries may be seen in the statistics of manufactures and of exports in the tabular appendix to the 1915 Journal. Furlan, in another study, presents his investigation of the density of the Swiss population.

E. W. KOPF.

New York City.

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#### 1920 CENSUS IN ITS RELATION TO VITAL STATISTICS.

Dr. John W. Trask, Chairman of the Vital Statistics Section, American Public Health Association, has appointed the following committee to take under consideration the subject of vital statistics of the 1920 United States Census: Dr. W. H. Guilfooy, Chairman, Dr. Cressy L. Wilbur, Dr. John S. Fulton, Prof. Jas. W. Glover, Mr. Edwin W. Kopf, Prof. Walter F. Willcox, Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman, Mr. Franz Schneider, Jr., Dr. W. H. Frost, and Dr. Wm. H. Davis.

Among the problems which the committee will be called upon to consider carefully are:

Life Tables for the triennium, 1919-1921.

Differential fecundity and vitality of race and nativity classes of the population.

Revision of mortality statistics of the decade 1910-1919 in the light of 1920 Census results, including review of achievements in reducing mortality from preventable disease.

Mortality in occupations, triennium 1919-1921.

Service of vital statistics in social reform; sickness, mortality and other vital statistics as a foundation for social insurance.

Vital statistics of institutions for care of the sick, triennium, 1919-1921. (Hospitals, asylums for the insane, indigent, etc.)

Plans for the improvement and extension of the registration area for births and deaths.

Improvement of municipal and state vital statistics.

Revision of International Nomenclature and Classification of Diseases, applicable to the years 1919 *et seq.*

Enumeration of sicknesses on Census Day, 1920, in selected areas.

Sickness and accident statistics of insurance societies.

The necessity of the census authorities furnishing some of the large cities of the country with age groupings of the population according to nativities and other related facts.

The age groupings according to selected areas in these cities.

The age groupings according to occupations.

The appointment of the committee recalls the symposium on vital statistics for the Twelfth Census, 1900, which appeared in the March, 1897, Quarterly of this Association and contributed by Messrs. Wilbur, Willcox, Fouse, Hoffman, Abbott, and King.

E. W. KOPF.

New York City.